

ANNUAL
HEALTH REPORT

OF THE
Hebburn Urban Sanitary District.

 1913. 

BY
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and

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HEBBURN-ON-TYNE:

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—
1914.

Urban District Council of Hebburn.

Councillor MAIN. J.P., Chairman.

Councillor BARRETT. Vice-Chairman.

Councillor BECK.

„ BELL.
„ BOOTH.
„ BRAID.
„ CLAYTON.
„ DUFFY.
„ GILFOYLE.
„ GORDON.
„ HOLMES.
„ KEENLYSIDE.
„ KELLY, J.P.
„ TAGGART.
„ REAY.
„ SHARPE.
„ McCOURT.
„ Rev. WILKINSON.

Monthly Meeting of the Council:—Second Monday in each month at 7-30 p.m.

General Purposes Committee:—First Monday in each month at 7 p.m.

Hospital Committee:—Thursday after meeting of General Purposes Committee at 7 p.m.

Urban District Council of Hebburn.

HOSPITAL COMMITTEE.

Councillor KELLY J.P. (Chairman).

„ BELL.
„ BOOTH.
„ GILFOYLE.
„ GORDON.
„ WILKINSON.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Hebburn
Urban District Council.*

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my third Health Report for the District of Hebburn.

The vital statistics for the year are by no means unsatisfactory, the Birth-rate continuing at a high level, and the Death-rate, both General and Infantile, showing a decline.

Scarlet Fever was epidemic during the second half of the year, but the type of the disease was mild, and loss of life inconsiderable.

Enteric Fever was more in evidence than those concerned for the sanitary reputation of the District might wish.

The housing question has become prominent in this as in other areas, and presents a problem which will not be found easy of solution.

I am, Gentleman,

Your obedient Servant,

E. E. NORMAN.

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Annual Medical Report.

The Urban District of Hebburn is situated in the North Eastern corner of the County of Durham. The Borough of Jarrow forms the Eastern and the Urban District of Felling with the South Shields Rural District its Southern boundary, while on the West and North it is bounded by the River Tyne.

The **Area** of the District is 1354.4 acres, of which 160.9 acres are permanently under water.

There are Six Wards:—

	Area in Acres.	Population 1911 Census.
West Ward	267.6	... 3280
Central Ward	38.7	... 3393
North Ward	185.5	... 3553
East Ward	138.5	... 4307
Victoria Ward	289.5	... 2350
South Ward	434.6	... 4883
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Total	1354.4	21766

As will be seen the Central Ward is by far the most densely populated and the Victoria Ward the least. For the most part the dwelling houses are packed closely together leaving a considerable area of undeveloped land, much of which is under cultivation.

Hebburn possesses a variety of large and important industries the chief being Collieries, Shipyards, Copper Works, Alkali Works, Electricity Works, Quarries, etc

PART I.

Vital Statistics.

According to the Census of 1911 the population of Hebburn at that time was 21,766, and assuming that no abnormal increase has since taken place the figure would now be 21,968. As, however, there has been a continuous and sustained boom in trade and an unprecedented demand for every kind of labour this figure is very much too low. Taking the number of houses at 4716 and taking five as the average number of inmates to each, the population then is 23,580, which is the figure I have adopted.

Births.

The total number of births registered during 1913 was 811, and of these 397 were males and 414 females. Twenty-three of the births were illegitimate, 10 being males and 13 females.

The Birth-rate for the year was 34.3 per 1000.

For previous years the figures were as follows:—

	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.
Total Births ...	796	709	747	761	811
Birth-rate	33.7	30.7	34.3	33.7	34.3

Comparison of Birth-rate of Hebburn with that of the rest of the country:—

England and Wales	23.9	per 1000.
London and 96 other Great Towns ...	25.1	„
145 Smaller Towns	23.9	„
Rural England and Wales	22.2	„
County of Durham	30.6	„
Hebburn	34.3	„

Deaths.

There were registered in the District 309 deaths. 177 males and 132 females.

In addition to these, 52 deaths of Hebburn residents were registered elsewhere, giving a total of 361. Of the deaths registered outside the District the majority were at Harton Workhouse, the Newcastle Infirmary, and other Institutions.

The Death-rate for 1913 was 15.3 per 1000.

Compared with former years:—

	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.
Total Deaths...	300	310	372	399	361
Death-rate	13.3	13.3	16.5	17.6	15.3

Comparison of Death-rate of Hebburn with that of the rest of the country:—

England and Wales	13.4	per 1000.
London and 96 other Great Towns ...	14.7	„
145 Smaller Towns	13.0	„
Rural England and Wales	12.1	„
County of Durham	15.1	„
Hebburn	15.3	„

Fourteen of the deaths were not certified either by a medical practitioner or by the Coroner.

Infantile Mortality.

Of the 361 recorded deaths, 98 or 28 per cent. were children under the age of one year. This represents an Infantile Mortality Rate of 122 per 1000 births.

Compared with former years:—

	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.
Number of Deaths	100	80	94	120	98
Death-rate per 1000 Births...	125	112	125	158	122

Comparison of Infantile Mortality Rates.

England and Wales	109	deaths per 1000 births.		
London and 96 other Great Towns	116	„	„	„
145 Smaller Towns	112	„	„	„
Rural England and Wales	96	„	„	„
London	104	„	„	„
County of Durham	137	„	„	„
Hebburn	122	„	„	„

During the year the Notification of Births' Act was adopted and put into operation by the Durham County Council with the result that since Midsummer the District has had the services of a Lady Health Visitor. It is too early as yet to expect any very striking results from her work, but as to its value and the need for it there can be only one opinion. At the outset fears were expressed that her visits might in many cases be regarded as an intrusion and resented as such, but this has proved not to be the case, and the lady enjoys the satisfaction of knowing that wherever she goes she is welcome.

Zymotic Diseases.

Under the term Zymotic are included all the Notifiable Infectious Diseases with the addition of Measles, Whooping Cough and Infantile Diarrhœa.

The accompanying table gives the number of Deaths and the Death-rate from the chief Zymotic Diseases:—

It will be observed that the figures for 1913 show a marked improvement on those of the previous two years and compare favourably with those of the County generally.

Disease.	Total Deaths for			Rate for Hebburn. 1913.	Rate for County of Durham. 1913.
	1911.	1912.	1913.		
Measles	14	29	7	0·28	0·41
Scarlet Fever ...	0	0	1	0·04	0·15
Whooping Cough ...	3	23	3	1·12	0·18
Diphtheria	5	2	4	0·16	0·19
Enteric Fever ...	4	4	2	0·08	0·06
Diarrhœa (under 2 yrs)	40	13	18	0·75	0·85
Totals	66	71	35	1·43	1·84

CAUSES OF DEATH.

Measles.

The epidemic of Measles which marked the closing months of 1912 was continued into 1913 and caused six deaths in January. There was another fatal case in December, giving a total of seven. All the deaths were children under the age of five. There were two each in the Victoria and South Wards, one each in the West, Central and North Wards, and none in the East Ward.

Scarlet Fever.

Only one death (the first since 1910) was caused by Scarlet Fever despite the fact that during half the year the disease was epidemic. The fatal case was a boy of 15 in the South Ward.

Whooping Cough.

At no time was this deadly disease unduly prevalent but scattered cases were met with and there were three deaths, two being in the South Ward and one in the North.

Diphtheria.

Diphtheria caused four deaths, one each in the North, East, West and Victoria Wards. The death-rate from this disease will be lessened when the public have come to realise that by the use of antitoxin at an early stage of the disease recovery is practically assured and that every hour lost increases the danger.

		Cases Notified.		Deaths.
1908	.....	23	.....	3
1909	.....	28	.....	3
1910	.....	35	.....	5
1911	.....	51	.....	5
1912	.....	29	.....	2
1913	.....	38	.....	4

Enteric Fever.

There were two deaths from Enteric Fever, compared with four in 1912 and four in 1911. Both were females, one, aged 7, in the North Ward and the other, aged 16, in the South.

Diarrhœa.

There were 18 deaths from this very fatal disease, compared with 13 in 1912 and 40 in 1911. The seasonal incidence of the disease is shown by the fact that there were no deaths in the first quarter of the year, two in the second, nine in the third, and six in the fourth. They occurred in the different Wards as follows:—

West Ward	3
Central Ward	3
North Ward	3
East Ward	4
Victoria Ward	0
South Ward	4
	<hr/>
	18

Infantile Diarrhœa is nearly always caused by milk which has been contaminated by flies. The conditions which favour

the multiplication of flies are heat and dryness together with suitable breeding-places such as collections of manure or of domestic refuse. The disease could therefore easily be prevented if only a sufficiently high standard of public sanitation and of domestic cleanliness could be aimed at and enforced.

Erysipelas.

There was no death from Erysipelas though cases of the disease were notified from time to time.

Influenza.

Three deaths were certified as being caused by Influenza.

Tuberculosis.

There were 45 deaths from Tuberculous disease, compared with 37 in 1912 and 35 in 1911. Of these, 25 were cases of Consumption, 9 of Tuberculous Meningitis, and 11 Tuberculosis of other organs. The pulmonary cases were all over 15 and less than 65 years of age, and were in the following Wards:—

	Cases Notified.	Deaths.
West Ward	10	4
Central Ward	15	2
North Ward	8	9
East Ward	10	3
Victoria Ward	10	3
South Ward	18	4
	—	—
Totals	71	25

The cases of Tuberculous Meningitis were in young children and there was one from each Ward except the South which had four.

The cases of Tuberculosis of other organs were for the most part young children.

West Ward	3
Central Ward	1
North Ward	1
East Ward	3
Victoria Ward	1
South Ward	2
	<hr/>
	11

Cancer.

Thirteen deaths were due to malignant new growths, compared with 17 in 1912 and 20 in 1911. All the cases were elderly or middle-aged.

Chest Diseases.

Diseases of the lungs and air-passages are year by year the cause of numerous deaths in our District, partly due to the inclemency of the climate and to some extent also, I have no doubt, to the irritating gas-laden atmosphere. At the same time a substantial reduction in the total number has to be recorded, there being only 54 last year against 76 in 1912 and 68 in 1911.

Heart Disease.

There were 26 deaths from Heart Disease, of which 2 were congenital.

Violent Deaths.

Eighteen persons were accidentally killed including the usual unnecessary sacrifice of little children from burns. Nine of these cases were removed before death to the Accident Infirmary.

Suicides.

Three persons committed suicide, being the same number as last year and one more than the year before.

Other Causes.

Fifty-four deaths were attributed to other causes known or surmised.

PART II.

Infectious Diseases.

The number of notifications of cases of Infectious Disease (excluding Tuberculosis) received during the year was 242. Last year there were 122 and 163 in 1911. The increase is due to the epidemic of Scarlet Fever of the second half of the year.

In the first quarter there were 18 cases, thus:—

Scarlet Fever	4
Diphtheria	9
Enteric Fever	0
Erysipelas	5
	<hr/>
Total	18

During the second quarter there were 29.

Scarlet Fever	14
Diphtheria	6
Enteric Fever	7
Erysipelas	2
	<hr/>
Total	29

During the third quarter there 61.

Scarlet Fever	44
Diphtheria	9
Enteric Fever	5
Erysipelas	3
	<hr/>
Total	61

The last quarter was by far the heaviest.

Scarlet Fever	93
Diphtheria	14
Enteric Fever	14
Erysipelas	13
	<hr/>
Total	134

Of the 242 cases notified, 207 were taken to Hospital or, deducting the Erysipelas cases, 207 out of 219.

Removal to Hospital is always recommended in the interest both of the patient and of the public, and little or no difficulty is usually experienced in the matter. When for any reason the patient does remain at home, disinfectants are supplied and printed instructions left and frequent visits are paid by Mr. Nutt to see that proper precautions are being observed. In all cases the bedding and clothing undergo purification at the Hospital and the house is disinfected with Formalin. Disinfectants are supplied without charge to houses where there is infectious disease, including all Tuberculous cases.

Scarlet Fever.

There were 155 cases of Scarlet Fever notified, in number greatly in excess of that of recent years and probably a record for the District. During the first six months the disease was not prevalent to any marked extent but became so in July when nineteen cases were notified. In August (when the Schools were closed) there were nine cases, rising to sixteen in September, twenty-five in October, thirty-one in November, and thirty-seven in December. The epidemic was not local but almost national in character and extent, and though this District was hardly hit yet some of the neighbouring places were even worse off.

	Cases Notified.		Removed to Hospital.
West Ward	19	.....	19
Central Ward	17	.....	15
North Ward	10	.....	9
East Ward	59	.....	58
Victoria Ward	18	.....	15
South Ward	32	.....	30
	<hr/>		<hr/>
Totals	155		146

Fortunately the disease was of a mild type and serious cases were exceptional. The greatest number of cases came from the East Ward which is occupied by Miners and their families amongst whom epidemics would appear to spread with unusual rapidity.

Diphtheria.

There were 38 notifications of Diphtheria, compared with 29 last year and 51 in 1911. The cases were as follows:—

	Cases Notified.	Removed to Hospital.
West Ward	4	4
Central Ward	4	3
North Ward	7	6
East Ward	10	10
Victoria Ward	5	5
South Ward	8	7
Totals	38	35

These cases call for no special remark, being scattered over the whole District and appearing at intervals throughout the year.

Enteric Fever.

Of this disease there were 26 notifications, compared with 7 in 1912 and 26 in 1911. They occurred as follows:—

	Cases Notified.	Removed to Hospital.
West Ward	2	2
Central Ward	2	2
North Ward	4	4
East Ward	15	15
Victoria Ward	0	0
South Ward	3	3
Totals	26	26

Of the above, two cases were in one family, four in another, and thirteen in a third.

April (Cases 1 & 2).—A man and his niece in the South Ward. He had been employed at Stockton shortly before, where at that time (April) there were some cases, and it is possible that he contracted the disease there.

May (Case 3).—A woman aged 50 from the Central Ward. In this case there was nothing to indicate the source of infection.

June (Cases 4, 5, 6 & 7).—A man and his three children. He was working at Newcastle.

July (Case 8).—A young man from the Central Ward who attributed his illness to eating ice-cream. It was, of course, impossible to secure any of the stuff otherwise it would have been interesting to find out how far his impression was correct.

August (Case 9).—A girl of 16 from the West Ward.

September (Cases 10 & 11).—A man of 34 from the East Ward, and a woman of 27 from the West Ward.

November (Case 12).—A girl of 16 from the South Ward.

September to December (Cases 13 to 25).—Thirteen cases from one family occupying two separate houses in the East Ward. The first was notified on 26th September. She was a girl of 11 and was taken to the Hospital whence she was discharged on December 10th. On November 7th six cases were notified, on December 7th two others, two more on the 16th, another on the 24th, and one on the 26th, while to complete the story a fourteenth and last case was reported on 7th January, 1914. It is rather curious that so many members of one family should have been attacked and still more so that with a centre of infection active over so long a time no extension of the disease beyond that family took place.

November (Case 26).—A man of 30 in the East Ward. He had eaten mussels purchased from a hawker's cart which may have caused the attack.

The above series indicates very definitely and clearly that the sanitary condition of the District is less satisfactory than could be wished, and points to the need that exists for further efforts to bring about an improvement.

The relative position of Hebburn compared with neighbouring districts as regards the incidence of infectious diseases is shown in the annexed table.

Sanitary District.			Population. 1911 Census.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Phthisis.
South of River Tyne.	Blaydon ...	...	31,139	153	36	6	50
	Gateshead ...	...	116,917	278	91	49	353
	Felling ...	...	25,026	76	24	5	51
	Jarrow ...	...	33,726	262	38	8	189
	South Shields	...	108,647	1037	61	22	321
	Hebburn ...	...	21,766	135	38	26	67
North of River Tyne.	Newburn ...	...	17,155	62	42	8	...
	Newcastle ...	...	266,603	957	364	129	...
	Wallsend ...	...	41,461	150	97	48	...
	Tynemouth	...	58,816	283	70	24	...
	Whitley Bay	...	14,457	71	36	5	...

Tuberculosis.

The passing of the National Insurance Act together with the introduction of compulsory notification of every case of Tuberculosis, have together made it possible for this disease to be dealt with and attacked with a real prospect of ultimate success. The establishment of hospitals and sanatoria for the institutional treatment of the disease and for the isolation of the virulently infectious cases, the opening of dispensaries for out-patients, and the work of After-care Committees and Health Visitors will eventually result in the disease being brought to some extent under control, when its prevention will become a matter of administrative action.

CONSUMPTION.

I.—Of Pulmonary Tuberculosis or Consumption, 71 cases were notified of which four had been previously notified, leaving a total of 67. There was no case under the age of five.

They occurred as follows:—

Ward.	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and upward	Total.
West ...	3	5	1	1	0	10
Central ...	5	5	3	2	0	15
North ...	0	2	4	2	0	8
East ...	4	3	1	1	1	10
Victoria ...	2	2	3	3	0	10
South ...	2	6	4	4	2	18
Totals ...	16	23	16	13	3	71

In addition there were two Form B. notifications, 14 of Form C., and 18 of Form D.

II.—**Other Forms.** Fifty-four notifications were received, from which three having previously been notified must be deducted, leaving 51. Two were under one year, ten under five, twenty-four under fifteen, and ten under twenty-five. They were distributed as follows:—

West Ward	14
Central Ward	8
North Ward	9
East Ward	7
Victoria Ward	4
South Ward	12
	—
	54

The chief organs affected were the glands of the neck (19), joints (12), and abdomen (6).

Fever Hospital.

During the year 207 patients were removed to the Fever Hospital, compared with 95 in 1912 and 101 in 1911. This is

by far the largest number of patients that the Hospital has ever had and it is very gratifying to have to record that there were only five deaths. The fatal cases were:—one Scarlet Fever, two Enteric Fever, and three Diphtheria.

The work of the Nursing and Domestic Staff has been heavy and continuous especially during the latter part of the year, and has been done in a manner in every way creditable and satisfactory. This was recognised practically by the Council who at Christmas gave each member a month's salary by way of bonus.

In October the Small-pox Hospital was opened as a Tuberculosis Hospital by the Durham County Council. It contains sixteen beds and is used for female cases only. The staff comprises three Nurses, two Maids and a Laundress, and the Administration Block is to be extended in order to provide the necessary accommodation. A whole-time porter and gardener has been attached to the Institution, his salary being paid in equal shares by the Hebburn Council and the County Council.

Before long it will be necessary for the Council to take into serious consideration the question of providing more suitable accommodation for the treatment of cases of Diphtheria than the old wooden building which is used for that purpose is able to afford. It is old and shows numerous signs of delapidation, and the maintenance of the temperature at an equable level is impossible. There is, moreover, the danger of fire which at any time might break out with consequences of the utmost gravity.

PART III.

General Sanitation.

The arrangements for scavenging and street-cleaning remain as in former years, that is to say, this work is being done by the Council's own workmen under the direction of the Surveyor. The ash-closets are cleaned once a week during the night time. Generally speaking this has been done fairly efficiently and

thoroughly. The streets and especially some of the lanes have received attention but have hardly been kept as well as they might have been. The surface of the roads and streets from end to end of the District is in a very unsatisfactory condition, being uneven and full of ruts and holes. To a large extent I think this is due to the way the roads are constantly being pulled up for the purpose of laying and repairing cables, gas-pipes and water-pipes. Although the road is supposed to be restored to its original state after the completion of the work the result is seldom quite satisfactory. No further progress has been made with the continuation of Argyle Street through the Colliery, and as this road, although it has become the chief means of through communication is in a deplorable state, it is to be hoped that it will be done without further unnecessary delay.

Some of the back streets are habitually in a very dirty condition owing to the practice which prevails extensively of keeping fowls and pigeons in back-yards. These places are quite unsuitable for the purpose and the result is that filth accumulates and the property suffers.

Sewers.

Further progress has been made in providing ventilating-shafts for the blind ends of the sewers. There are still some to be done in the Quay and in the Victoria Ward.

Disposal of Night-soil.

Last year I reported that arrangements had been made with the United Alkali Company whereby their hoppers were to be at the service of the Council for the removal of the town's night-soil to sea. This worked quite smoothly with occasional interruptions owing to stormy weather until the tugboat-men unfortunately struck work. The strike lasted some weeks and there was nothing for it but to tip the refuse on to the Council's riverside land to the amount of 1,780 tons. In November it was resolved to allow farmers in the locality to have the use of the

night-soil for the fertilisation of the land, and in this way 254 tons were disposed of. In a very short time it was found that this practice gave rise to an intolerable nuisance and soon afterwards the resolution was quite properly rescinded. The question of erecting a quay and buying a hopper has remained in abeyance.

Closets.

An excellent decision was come to by the Council when they resolved not to pass plans for the construction or re-construction of houses unless water-closet accommodation was provided. This is a step in the right direction and it is to be hoped the rule will be rigidly adhered to.

There has been a gradual increase in the number of water-closets during recent years as is shown by the fact that last year there were 242 and only 111 five years previously. At the same time one would like to see the process of conversion from the dry to the water-closet undergo acceleration, for anything more foul or insanitary than the ordinary dry-closet would be hard to find.

Water Supply.

The Sunderland and South Shields Water Co. supply the District with water of pure quality, very hard, and plentiful in amount.

Slaughter Houses.

The increasing popularity of imported chilled meat due to its comparative cheapness is shown by the reduction in the number of fresh-meat butchers from nine to seven, of whom three deal exclusively in pork. The facilities for slaughtering are not in all cases satisfactory, though I am satisfied that every care is taken to ensure cleanliness. In one case the animals are slaughtered in the shop itself, for which a more sanitary arrangement should be substituted.

Two carcasses were found to be grossly infected with Tuberculous disease and were destroyed.

Cow-sheds and Dairies.

By far the greater part of the milk sold in Hebburn is imported from outside the District and in some cases has to be conveyed a long distance before it reaches the vendor. This is not calculated to improve the freshness or quality of the milk and also involves an increased risk of bacterial infection. The problem of ensuring the purity and wholesomeness of the milk supply is as difficult as it is pressing and will only be solved when dealt with on a national scale.

Housing.

The housing question has of late years attracted much attention throughout the country owing chiefly to the recognition of the fact that many diseases, and especially tuberculosis, are encouraged and propagated by insanitary housing conditions, the most important being beyond all question deficiency of air-space. During the last three years the over-crowding difficulty has been acute in Hebburn owing to the trade boom attracting strangers, coupled with the singular slackness in the building trade, and this question is going to be one of the most complicated and difficult that the Local Authority has so far had to face.

The Census figures of 1911 show the County of Durham as the most over-crowded area in the land and it is a serious thing that with one single exception Hebburn is the most over-crowded area in the County. Allowing two persons to a room and regarding any higher number as constituting over-crowding, it was found that in Hebburn the proportion of persons living in over-crowded dwellings was 42.1 per cent., compared with an average for the County of 28.5 per cent. That was in 1911, since when the population has largely increased without any corresponding increase in the number of houses. It is obvious, of course, that the present phenomenal prosperity will not always exist and that

the advent of bad times will to some extent relieve the situation. But that is not a sufficient reason for ignoring a present grave evil and if private enterprise cannot provide a cure it seems to me that the Council as the Local Sanitary Authority will have to take up the question themselves.

Housing and Town Planning Act.

A reference to the annexed report of the Sanitary Inspector will show what has been accomplished under the above Act. Since the gradual closure of the old houses in the East Ward was decided on, forty have been closed and twenty more should have been closed but were not owing to the utter impossibility of finding other accommodation for the occupants.

At the top end of Charles Street and Station Road in the South Ward, the owners have voluntarily improved the property by reducing the number of tenements and so relieving the congestion. In the West and Central Wards it is very desirable that certain of the corner buildings should be similarly dealt with. The tenements are congested and crowded together so that there is insufficient light and ineffective ventilation.

The following pages contain the statistical tables required by the Local Government Board, together with the report of the Sanitary Inspector and Mr. Nutt's report on his work in connection with cases of infectious disease.

E. E. NORMAN.

Hebburn,
April, 1914.

Table 1.—VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING
1913 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births.			Total Deaths registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Uncorrected Number.	Nett.				of Non-Residents registered in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Age	
			Number.	Rate.	Rate.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Deaths.			Number.	Rate.		
1908	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1909	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1910	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1911	21766	747	747	34·3	318	14·6	9	31	94	125	340	16·5
1912	22516	756	761	33·7	366	16·1	3	36	120	157	399	17·6
1913	23580	811	813	34·3	309	13·1	0	52	98	122	361	15·3

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water)
1354·4.

Total population at all ages	21,766	} At Census of 1911.
Number of inhabited houses	4,273	
Average number of persons per house	5	

Table 11.—CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1913.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	Cases Notified in whole District							Total cases notified in each locality.					Total Cases removed to Hospital.			
	At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 to 5 years.	5 to 15 years.	15 to 25 years.	25 to 45 years.	45 to 65 years.	65 years and upwards.	West.	Central.	North.	East.		Victoria.	South. (H)	
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	38	...	8	25	2	3	...	...	4	4	7	10	5	8	35	...
Erysipelas	23	...	1	1	1	9	10	1	3	2	4	9	...	5	...	...
Scarlet Fever	155	1	43	98	10	3	...	...	19	17	10	59	18	32	146	...
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	26	...	2	10	7	6	1	...	2	2	4	15	...	3	26	...
Relapsing Fever...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever, Continued Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	71	...	...	16	23	16	13	3	10	15	8	10	10	18	...	...
Other forms of Tuberculosis...	54	2	10	24	10	5	3	...	14	8	9	7	4	12	...	...
Totals	367	3	64	174	53	42	27	4	52	48	42	110	37	78	207	...

Isolation Hospital—Hebburn Fever Hospital.

Table IV.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1912.

Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages under One Year of Age.

Cause of Death.		Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-3 Months.	3-6 Months.	6-9 Months.	9-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year
All causes	{ Certified	24	6	1	1	32	20	15	11	16	94
	{ Uncertified	...	1	...	...	1	1	1	2	...	5
{	Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{	Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2
	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
	Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
{	Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	T'berculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
{	Abdominal Tub'culosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
{	Meningitis, not Tubercul's	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2
	Convulsions	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	...	5
{	Laryngitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bronchitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	2	3	9
{	Pneumonia (all forms).	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	1	4	11
	Diarrhœa ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	2	4	10
{	Enteritis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Gastritis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
{	Syphilis ...	2	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	3
	Rickets ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
{	Suffocation, overlaying	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Injury at Birth	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
{	Atelectasis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Congenital Malformations	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
{	Premature Birth	15	5	...	...	20	5	1	...	...	26
	Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus	2	...	1	1	4	10	2	...	1	17
{	Other causes	1	2	...	...	3	...	...	1	...	4
		24	7	1	1	33	21	16	13	16	99

Births in the Year { Legitimate ... 788
 { Illegitimate ... 23

Table III.—CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR 1913.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	New Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.									Total deaths whether of Residents in the District, Residents or Non-Residents
	All ages.	Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 & under 3	3 & under 15	15 & under 25	25 & under 45	45 & under 65	65 & upwards	
All causes (Certified	295	93	24	18	14	23	35	50	37	16
All causes (Uncertified	14	5	1	1	0	0	3	0	4	0
Enteric Fever	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	2
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	7	2	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet fever	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Whooping-cough	3	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3
Diphtheria and Croup	4	1	...	2	1	...	1	1	1	...
Influenza	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	25	...	...	...	...	12	8	5	...	1
Tuberculous Meningitis	9	1	5	1	2	...	...	...	...	...
Other tubercular diseases	11	1	3	1	2	3	1	...	...	...
Rheumatic Fever	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...
Cancer, malignant disease	13	...	...	...	...	...	3	6	4	...
Bronchitis	23	8	2	...	...	...	...	5	8	...
Broncho-Pneumonia	21	12	3	3	1	2	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia (all other forms)	8	...	...	...	1	1	2	2	1	...
Other diseases of respiratory organs	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	...
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	21	10	7	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	7	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	...	...
Puerperal fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other accidents and diseases of	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pregnancy and Parturition	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...
Congenital Debility & Malforma-	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
tion, including Premature Birth	43	42	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	18	...	...	3	2	1	6	2	4	...
Suicides	3	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...
Heart Disease	26	2	...	...	...	1	4	14	5	...
Other Defined Diseases	52	17	2	3	2	...	5	9	14	...
Diseases ill-defined or unknown	2	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...
All causes	309	98	25	19	14	23	38	50	42	16

**Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the
Year 1913, for the Urban District of Hebburn,**
on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901,
in connection with
Factories, Workshops, Workplaces and Homework.

I.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors
of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of Inspecti'ns	Number of Written Notices.	Number of Pro- secutions
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	...	I	...
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	14	...	...
Workplaces (other than Outwork- erpremises included in parts 3 of this report)	12	...	...
Total	26	I	...

II.—DEFECTS.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—				
Want of Cleanliness				
Want of Ventilation				
Overcrowding				
Want of drainage of floors				
Other nuisances				
Insufficient sanitary accommodation...	I	I		
Unsuitable or defective „ ...	I	I		
Not separate for sexes „ ...				
Offences under the Factory & Workshop Act :				
Illegal occupation of underground bake-houses				
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses				
Other offences (excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this report				
Total	2	2	—	—

III.—HOMEWORK.

Nature of Work.			
Wearing Apparel—(1) Making, &c. ...			
(2) Cleaning and washing			
Household Linen ...	...	...
Lace, lace curtains and nets ...			
Curtains and Furniture hangings ...			
Furniture and upholstery ...	...	...
Electro-plate ...	...	...
File making ...	...	...
Brass and brass articles ...	...	...
Fur pulling ...	...	...
Cables and chains ...	...	...
Anchors and grapnels ...	...	...
Cart gear ...	...	...
Locks, latches and keys ...	...	...
Umbrellas, &c. ...	...	...
Artificial flowers ...	...	...
Nets, other than wire nets ...			
Tents—Rug Making ...	...	...	3
Sacks ...	...	...
Racquet and tennis balls ...	...	...
Paper bags and boxes ...	...	...
Brush making ...	...	...
Pea Picking ...	...	...
Feather sorting ...	...	...
Carding, &c. of buttons, &c. ...	...	...
Stuffed toys ...	...	...
Basket making ...	...	...
Chocolates and Sweetmeats ...			
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christ- mas stockings, &c. ...	...	...
Testile weaving ...	...	...
Total ...	...	...	3

IV.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register at the end of the year.					Number.
Milliners' Workshops	...	...	...	...	4
Dressmakers' Workshops	...	...	...	...	2
Tailors' Workshops	...	...	...	...	3
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	1
Plumbers' Workshops	...	...	...	...	1
Joiner	...	...	...	...	1
Total number of workshops on register					12

V.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class.					No.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—					
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act	...	...	...	...	...
Action taken—Notified by H.M. Inspector	...	...	...	...	5
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	...	...	...	...	...
Other	...	...	...	...	...
Underground Bakehouses :					
Certificates granted during the year	...	...	...	...	...
In use at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	12

REPORT OF INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES

For the Year ended 31st December, 1913.

To the Medical Officer of Health.

Sir,

In submitting to you my Thirteenth Annual Report of the work done in my department for the year just ended, it is a pleasure to state that the prosperity of the District has been well maintained as far as the employment of the workpeople are concerned.

Houses for the working classes are still very scarce and the builders seem unwilling to move in the matter, although there is a slight improvement on last year.

There is still some over-crowding which cannot altogether be avoided. Twenty houses were closed as being unfit for habitation, but up to the present the occupiers have been unable to find others, and further than that other 20 have been closed owing to alterations and improvements being carried out. I am of opinion that sooner or later the Local Authority will have to deal with the matter.

Another matter to which I wish to call your attention is the continual decrease in the number of butcher's shops for home fed meat, and of milk cows on the local farms. Whether this is due to competition or more stringent measures it is difficult to say.

Other matters will be dealt with under their different headings.

Nuisances.

I have served 302 informal notices and 2 formal notices on owners and occupiers, most of which have been complied with. A considerable amount of repairs have been done by owners

without any notices, due no doubt to the satisfactory condition of employment in the District.

The following are the different Wards in which notices were served:—

	Informal.		Formal.
West Ward	65	.....	2
Central Ward	68	.....	8
North Ward	47	.....	7
East Ward	29	.....	2
Victoria Ward	18	.....	0
South Ward	75	.....	2
	<hr/> 302		<hr/> 21

Ash-pits, Ash-closets, and Water-closets.

The following table gives the ash-pits, ash-closets, and water-closets. You will notice that there is a reduction of ash-pits, due to the closing of houses in the East Ward, and a reduction of ash-closets, they having been replaced by water-closets, in different parts of the District.

		Ash-pits.	Ash-closets	Water-closets.	Total.
WEST WARD ... ..	...	9	511	54	574
CENTRAL WARD ... ..	...	1	705	21	727
NORTH WARD ... ..	...	3	755	3	761
EAST WARD ... ..	...	16	775	10	801
VICTORIA WARD ... ..	...	2	529	64	595
SOUTH WARD ... ..	...	18	800	90	908
TOTAL ... ..	...	49	4075	242	4366

New Houses Built and Occupied.

There have been built and occupied during the year 17 houses—15 self-contained and two flats. With the exception of three in Aln Street they are all provided with baths, water-closets, and Dr. Quin's ash-bins.

They are situate as follows:—

West Ward, Lyon Street	4
East Ward, School Street	3
Victoria Ward, Aln Street	3
South Ward, Canning Street	4
South Ward, Victoria Road West	4
	<hr/>
	17

New Houses in course of Erection.

The number of new houses in course of erection are 20, all to be provided with water-cosets, ash-bins, etc., and situated as follows:—

South Ward, Wellington Street—Flats	12
South Ward, Victoria Rd. W.—Self-contained...	2
Victoria Ward, Aln Street—Self-contained	1
North Ward, Whitburn Street—Self-contained...	5
	<hr/>
	20

Disposal of Night-soil.

The number of tons of night-soil collected and disposed of during the year was as follows:—

To sea by Tennant's Hopper	11089
Quay Land	1780
Agricultural Land	254
	<hr/>
	13123

There was something like 589 tons tipped at Tennant's Quay when the hopper was not available which had to be re-filled. The reason why so much of the soil was tipped on the Quay land was owing to a strike amongst the men on the river.

Slaughter Houses.

There are seven Slaughter Houses in the District, four for butcher meat and three for pork, all of which have retail shops on the premises where slaughtering takes place. There are in addition three shops where home-fed meat is sold, but which is slaughtered in another district. There are 16 shops in which foreign meat is sold. I had to make a complaint against three of them for having unsound meat within their premises, since then I have had no reason to complain.

There were two carcasses of meat given up and destroyed, both animals had been suffering from Tuberculosis. I understand the owners received compensation and were pleased to have the carcasses disposed of.

Cowsheds, Dairies, and Milkshops.

A great change seems to have taken place with respect to the trade of cow-keeping. The same farms are being conducted by the same people, but instead of cows being kept (of which there are only eight at present) milk is being brought in from other districts and sold in ours. Whether this be due to more stringent measures being taken or whether the dealers find it cheaper to import it from outlying districts I am not prepared to say. As you are well aware of the conditions which exist on one farm it may be as well to say nothing more at present.

I have visited all the shops from which milk is sold from time to time and have had no reason to complain as to the manner in which the premises are kept or the trade carried on.

Bakehouse.

There is one Bakehouse in the North Ward. The business is very small, and I have always found it very clean and well conducted.

Plans have been passed for another in the South Ward. It, too, is on a small scale and will only be used for supplying a shop on the same premises.

Common Lodging House.

There is just one, the same as last year. It is somewhat getting out of repair which will be attended to in a short time.

Domestic Factories and Workshops.

There are 12 Workshops in the District in which the following trades are carried on:—

Milliners	4
Dressmakers	2
Tailors	3
Plumber	1
Baker	1
Joiner	1
	<hr/>
	12

There are three Out-workers employed in the District, working for a firm outside the District. I have always found them clean and careful and anxious to comply with any requirement which I may make.

I have had five notices from the Inspector of Factories. Three under Form 35, one under Form 9, and one under Form 144. I have had all these attended to and complied with.

Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909.

The number of inspections made for the purpose of the above Act were 124, as follows:—

High Lane Row East	8
High Lane Row West	12
Charles Street	2
James Street	3

High Lane Row East and West are to be permanently closed, but as there are no empty houses to be found in the District the Council have not yet served the occupiers with notices to quit.

The five houses in Charles and James Streets are being repaired and will soon again be ready for occupation.

The other 97 houses were dealt with under sub-section 3 of section 15, and have in nearly all cases been complied with. Many of the defects found were due to the carelessness if not the destructiveness of the tenants or their children, but it is very difficult to find the guilty parties.

The number of houses reported in 1912 which had not been repaired at the year's end was 23, as follows:—

Hilda Terrace	16
Charles Street	7

The work required to be done to these has now been completed and a great improvement made.

Health Visitor.

I have received a good many notices from the Health Visitor recently appointed, dealing with nuisances which she found in her rounds in the District. They consist mostly of over-crowding, damp walls, ceiling down, sinks stopped, window cords, etc.

The ordinary repairs could be easily done, but over-crowding at present is a problem which cannot be so easily solved, nor is it likely to be for many a day.

**Summary of Work done in the Inspector of Nuisances
Department during the Year ended December 31st, 1913.**

Public Health Acts.	Informal Notices served.	Formal Notices served.	Nuisances Abated after Notices.
Foul Conditions ...	121	4	117
Structural Defects ...	74	6	72
Overcrowding ...	5	...	4
Cowsheds ...	1	1	1
Slaughter-houses ...	6	...	6
Ashpits and Privies ...	5	...	5
Deposits of Refuse etc.	15	1	14
Water-closets ...	1	...	1
Defective Yard Paving	10	2	10
Defective Traps ...	8	2	8
No disconnection from Sewers ...	8	2	8
Other Faults ...	11	1	9
Water Supply ...	1	...	1
Pigsties ...	6	1	6
Animals impropr'ly kept	5	...	5
Gutters and Spouts ...	25	1	25
Totals ...	302	21	292

I am, Sir, Yours truly,

R. S. THOMSON, A.R.S.Inst.,
Inspector of Nuisances.

Report of Assistant in the Health Department.

To the Medical Officer of Health.

Sir,

I submit to you a Report of the work done in connection with Infectious Disease which has been carried out by me under the direction of the M.O.H.

During the year there were 242 cases notified under the Notification Acts of 1889 and 1899, as follows:—

Scarlet Fever	155
Enteric Fever	26
Diphtheria	38
Erysipelas	23

There were 207 patients removed to the Isolation Hospital out of a possible 219. The following table shows the Wards where the cases were removed from:—

Notifiable Disease.	West.	Central.	North.	East.	Victoria.	South.	Total No. of each Disease
Scarlet Fever... ..	19	15	9	58	15	30	146
Enteric Fever , ...	2	2	4	15	...	3	26
Diphtheria	4	3	6	10	5	7	35
Total for each Ward	25	20	19	83	20	40	207

There were 12 patients isolated at home, as follows:—

Notifiable Disease.	West.	Central.	North.	East.	Victoria.	South.	Total Isolated at home.
Scarlet Fever...	2	1	1	3	2	9
Diphtheria	1	1	...	...	1	3
Total in each Ward	...	3	2	1	3	3	12

Precautionary methods were adopted in each of these cases, frequent visits were made and disinfectants served. When the patient was declared clear the room and other parts of the house were disinfected. The bedding and all clothing were removed to the Steam Disinfector, and the thorough disinfection of the sick-room accomplished.

In every case the School Attendance Officers were kept informed where the children were attending School.

All cases of Erysipelas were visited and bills of instruction, with disinfectants, were served.

There were 211 houses disinfected after Infectious Disease, including 21 houses where Pulmonary Tuberculosis had been notified and a death had taken place or the removal of the patient.

I have disinfected and purified voluntarily for the extermination of vermin and unnotifiable cases, 26 houses, thus making the number of houses disinfected during the year 237.

There were 203 lots of bedding removed to the Steam Disinfector. Three of these were destroyed. It was found necessary in one case to destroy the bedding and the owners were compensated for the same. This includes 17 lots of bedding where death had taken place from consumption.

I have served out during the year 70 Sputum Flasks with Izal to persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Bills of instruction to the patient were given to the parents for precautionary measures.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis has added a good deal more responsibility to the Health Department, that is, in the precautions to be taken. Izal has been freely given out during the year, and where a patient has died the disinfection of the house and the whole of the bedding must be carried out.

During the year I have made 933 visits to houses where there was Infectious Disease, and 52 visits to houses purified voluntarily and unnotifiable cases, making 985 visits.

Disinfection of Houses.

Formalin has been used in all cases. In the past the condition of many houses would not permit of the thorough disinfection, but with the spray method all houses can be done satisfactorily.

I trust I have carried out my duties to the satisfaction of all concerned.

Your obedient Servant,

W. NUTT.